

Title: Regarding diversion of water of river Mahendra Tanaya by Andhra Pradesh Government affecting water supply in certain regions of Orissa.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Mr Chairman, Sir I would like to raise an important issue concerning my State of Orissa and it refers to diversion of water of river Mahendra Tanaya by Andhra Pradesh Government affecting six Gram Panchayats of Orissa which will face acute drinking water shortage.

Even as the dispute over the Katraguda project on river Bansadhara and Pollavaram over river Godavari is yet to be resolved between Orissa and Andhra Pradesh Governments, recently Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, Shri Y.Rajashekhar Reddy has declared to take up another project – Mahendra Tanaya off shore irrigation project, which has caused tremendous resentment in and around the district headquarters of Gajapati named Parlakhemundi. This project will affect our agriculture adversely. As per the preliminary design the proposed project estimated to cost over Rs. 127 crore.[\[a90\]](#) [\[R91\]](#)

We are not concerned with the amount that is to be invested in that project. But we are concerned that the two reservoirs at Melliaputi village which is 8 km. upstream of Parlakhemundi and Poluru, that is 20 kms. from Parlakhemundi which are being created in Srikakulam district will be diverting water from Mahendra Tanaya river thereby six gram panchayats of Gosani Block would face shortage of water. My request here is this. The possibility of drinking water shortage will be there in Parlakhemundi district headquarters. So, I would urge upon the Government to intervene in the matter and restrain Andhra Pradesh Government in proceeding with the project unilaterally.

The second thing is that the Government should impress upon the Andhra Government to take the Orissa Government into confidence as Mahendra Tanaya is a riparian river. I would request the Government to act immediately and do not allow the situation to go out of its hand.